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ARTS SUMMIT TO SHINE SPOTLIGHT ON LOCAL ARTISTS, OCT. 24

Performances, readings and artwork added to biennial event featuring workshops & more

JULY 6, 2005 — The Delaware Division of the Arts (DDOA) has put a new spin on its biennial Arts Summit, turning the October 24 event into a showcase of Delaware artists combined with a full day of educational workshops and arts resources.

The 2005 Arts Summit, “Showcasing the Arts in Delaware,” will be held at the Dover Downs Hotel & Conference Center in Dover, on Monday, October 24, from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The event will feature the following activities and resources:

- **Workshop Sessions** – A series of workshops will address topics such as marketing, legal issues, arts programming, technology, media relations, board development and more.
- **Keynote Address** – Philadelphia-based storyteller Charlotte Blake Alston will tell her own tale of becoming a successful performing artist and share her thoughts on the power and far-reaching impact of live, human-to-human artistic exchange.
- **Artist Portfolio Reviews** – Curators, gallery owners, and renowned artists will be on hand to critique artwork, discuss exhibit opportunities and review presentation materials.
- **Artist Showcase** – Delaware musicians, dancers, theater artists and storytellers will perform throughout the day. Featured artists include pianist Catherine Marie Charlton, the Distant Voices Touring Theatre, singer/songwriter Crabmeat Thompson, fortepiano player Susan Duer, multi-instrumentalist Shawn Qaissaunee, the Itinerant Dance Theater, storytellers Tahira and Joe Plummer, vocalist Ellen Lebowitz, flute and harp duo Sparx, baritone soloist C. Lawler Rodgers, and the bassoon and harpsichord duo of Chuck Holdeman and Tracy Richardson.
- **Literary Lounge** – Delaware Poet Laureate Fleda Brown will host a literary feast with readings of poetry, short stories, fiction and nonfiction by Delaware writers.
- **Virtual Art Gallery** – The work of more than 40 Delaware visual artists will be featured in a media presentation of paintings, sculpture, photography, crafts and folk arts.

“The 2005 Arts Summit is our opportunity to devote an entire day to the arts in Delaware, with a great line-up of speakers plus some fabulous performances by Delaware artists,” said DDOA Director Laura Scanlan. “This event offers some great educational resources, but will also serve as a wonderful celebration of the artistic talent our state has to offer.”

The Division of the Arts is transforming the Dover Downs Conference Center into its own Arts Avenue, with a Center Stage Café where live performances will be held, the Literary Lounge for readings of poetry and prose, the Virtual Art Gallery showing all day, a Cyber Café with online access to the *Delaware Artist Roster*, Booth Boutiques with information from artists and arts organizations, and one-on-one Curbside Consultations offered by workshop speakers.

The day’s events will conclude with a reception on the Arts Avenue, with hors d’oeuvres, beverages and yet another performance by a Delaware artist.

Cost to attend is \$45 per person, which includes lunch and reception. Brochures with registration forms will be mailed in August, and will also be available online at www.artsdel.org/summit. The registration deadline is October 7.

For more information or to receive a brochure, please contact the Delaware Division of the Arts at (302) 577-8278 (New Castle County) or (302) 739-5304 (Kent/Sussex).

The Delaware Division of the Arts (DDOA) is dedicated to promoting and developing the arts throughout the state. Together with its advisory body, the Delaware State Arts Council (DSAC), the Division administers grants and programs that support arts programming, educate the public, increase awareness of the arts, and integrate the arts into all facets of Delaware life.

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